

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. ATT/2003-0189

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In view of the above amendment and the following discussion, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102. Thus, the Applicants believe that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-5, 8, 10, 11 AND 13 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 8, 10, 11 and 13 in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,700,966, hereinafter "Takagi." Responsive to the Examiner, Applicants herein cancel claims 1-5, 8, 10, 11 and 13 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to continue prosecution of these claims in one or more continuation applications. Applicants submit that the present rejection is now moot.

II. ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for indication that claims 6, 7 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Responsive to the Examiner, the Applicants herein amend claims 6 and 12 accordingly. The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6, 7 and 12 are now in allowable form and respectfully request the objection be withdrawn.

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Conclusion


Thus, the Applicants submit that all of these claims now fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §102. Consequently, the Applicants believe that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring the issuance of a final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Kin-Wah Tong, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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